

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment claims 152 -175 will be pending.

The present invention relates to an array of biolayers made by microdispensing a controlled volume of liquid onto a surface.

Claims 144 – 147 and 150 – 151 are rejected under 35 USC 102 (b) over Lowe *et al.* US 4,562,157) or Chang.

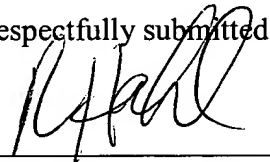
The examiner has maintained the anticipation rejection over Lowe *et al.* and added a new one over Chang, arguing that the claims did not recite any physical structure that would distinguish them from structures which are readily available using photolithography (Lowe *et al.*) or micropipeting (Chang).

However claims 148 – 149 were indicated to be allowable (Office Action page 4, item 4) because they define the active biomolecules as DNA, RNA or single-stranded polynucleotides. Accordingly, these limitations have been incorporated into the independent claims.

Applicants submit that the case is now in condition for allowance. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1710.

Respectfully submitted,



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